

# gay community news

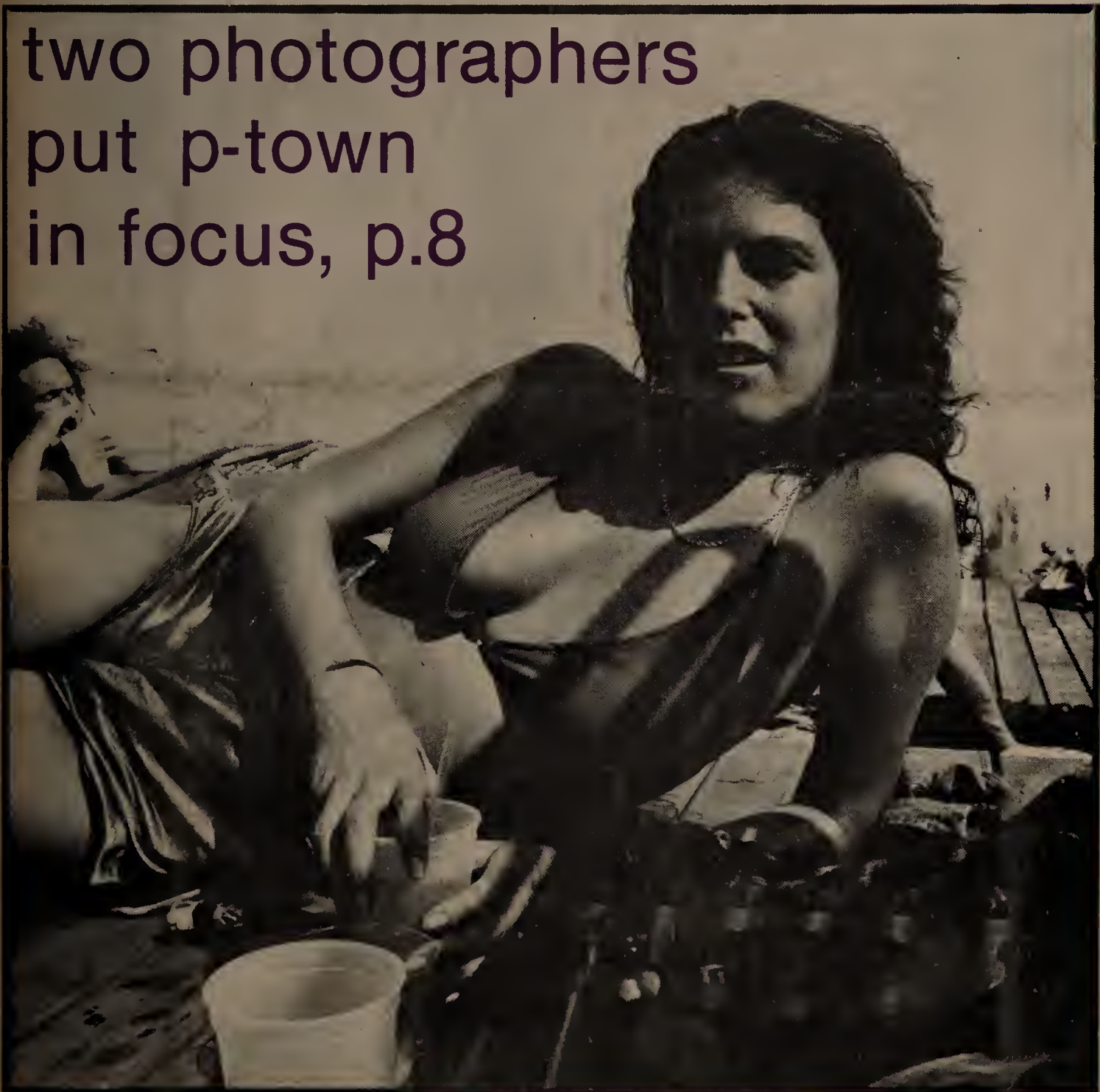
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October 1, 1977

The Gay Weekly 35¢

chatting with rita mae p.10  
pryor stuns benefit, p.1

two photographers  
put p-town  
in focus, p.8



Ricky by David Armstrong



## 'White Christian' Newspaper Urges: 'Gas Gays'

BASS, AR — An Arkansas-based "White Christian" newspaper called *The Torch* has editorially urged the gassing of gay people. The editorial, which is published as part of an eight-page mimeographed July issue devoted to homosexuality, is virtually identical to a recorded phone message at a Ku Klux Klan bookshop which was described in last week's GCN (Vol. 5, No. 12).

While the Ku Klux Klan recorded message begins, "The Ku Klux Klan is not embarrassed to admit that we endorse and seek the execution of all homosexuals," *The Torch* editorial begins, "The White People's Committee to Restore God's Laws is not embarrassed to admit that we endorse and seek the execution of all homosexuals." The only difference in wording between *The Torch* and the KKK statement is that at one point *The Torch* uses the words "faggot slime" while the KKK call for execution refers



modestly to "homosexuals." Otherwise, the wording is identical.

Both the editorial and the recorded message end with the statement, "The law of God states the death penalty for homosexuals and when God's laws are again in force the death penalty is what it will be."

The issue of the newspaper also contains a purported interview with a Miami housewife, Mrs. Whitman, who urges that gay people "be removed from society — completely!" When asked how she would go about removing them, Mrs. Whitman replies, "Well, the Bible I believe says to stone them. Of course they did not have elec-

tric chairs in those days, nor did they have gas chambers. I am not really fussy about the method, only the results: a clean, decent environment for my children."

The interview/article continues, "Others who were interviewed expressed basically the same opinion. A few thought that efforts should be made to 'save' the homosexuals and not really punish them and one woman said that although she did believe that homosexuality was a sin, we should not really oppose them, only that we should 'pray for their souls.' Nevertheless the majority seems to believe execution is the only answer."

"It is becoming increasingly clear to many Americans that homosexuals can no longer be tolerated and that efforts should be made to make it a capital crime punishable by death," the article concludes.

Other highlights of the issue include a photo of Rev. Troy Perry joining "two homosexual scum" in "Holy Union," an article headlined "Jews Fire Anita Bryant for Opposing Queers," a discussion of the "Trash Bag Killings" in California, and an advertisement for *Great Achievements of the Negro Race (Humorous)*, now in print and available at \$.25 a copy.

*The Torch* lists itself as "the Revolutionary newspaper of The White People's Committee to Restore God's Laws." It is edited by Thom Arthur Robb and is available by writing Box 88, Bass, Arkansas 72612. Subscription rate is \$5 for 12 issues "regardless of the frequency of publication."

### news commentary

## Pryor Gay Racism Attack Causes Hollywood Row

By Ray Spears

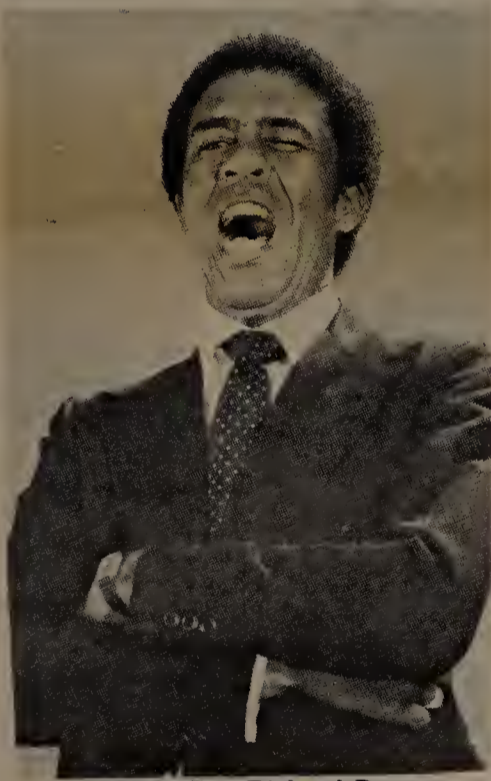
HOLLYWOOD, CA — In one of the most memorable displays of comedic art since Lenny Bruce first told a Catskill's audience "I'm going to piss on you," comedian Richard Pryor shocked an audience of upwardly mobile, white gays and their "straight" sympathizers at a Hollywood Bowl fund-raising event on Sunday, Sept. 18.

Pryor's wit, combined with the abject insensitivity of virtually everyone in the audience and on stage to what he was trying to say, made the evening a pungent theatre of the absurd on the topic of the inability of the different victims of human rights violations to deal with each other.

At a benefit for Save Our Human Rights, an organization which is attempting to defeat an initiative being readied for the California ballot to prevent gays from teaching, Pryor was ironically by far the most outspoken *racounteur* of gay experience. He was the only person on stage to mention gay sexual activity. "Wilmer said I could use his name only if I said all the other guys who did," he said, discussing his adolescent exploits. He then proceeded with a list which must have included the entire block.

And while the "liberated" audience laughed nervously at his honesty, the laughter rapidly turned to boos when they discovered that Pryor intended to be equally honest about the failure of many of the gay people in Hollywood to support other civil and human rights issues. "While Watts was burning, you were doing your thing up on Hollywood Boulevard," he said at one point. The audience carefully perceived a slight when he reminded them that the real issue was "forty acres and a mule."

It seemed pretty clear that this is not what Pryor had planned to be talking about when he said he'd do the show, but the causes of his frustration were evident. To begin with, the producer (Aaron Russo, also Bette Midler's producer) had probably not mentioned that human rights was for many a code word for gay rights. The audience was rude to the non-white performers. The



Comedian Richard Pryor

rock group War and their friends, a group called Elan, jammed for about forty-five minutes before intermission. There was very little response. Pryor reported that a group of black disco dancers called The Lockers were insulted by the fire marshal backstage for using a six-inch flame "... and all the white folks tippy-toed away ..." But white ballet artists Joanna Kirkland and John Clifford, of the Los Angeles Ballet Company, were greeted with prolonged applause.

Lily Tomlin came on to a standing ovation. Tomlin, a favorite for her support of gay causes and relative outspokenness, made a few overt references to her experience of growing up gay in the 1950s: "No one was gay then — just shy." She delivered a rich series of one-liners about her worries ("I worry that some of you are deeply concerned about human rights. I worry that some of you are here to meet") and drug jokes ("I worry that drugs have forced us to be more creative than we really are"). She did a routine on masturbation that recalled lesbian comedienne Ivy Bottini. She told a touching story of a crush a second-grader has on her teacher. The audi-

ence loved it.

After a dismal performance by comedian David Steinberg, Richard Pryor came on.

"I came here to do a show about human rights. And I find that what it's about, is not getting caught with a dick in your mouth." He surveyed the white expanse. "There's about four niggers here tonight. There's a nigger there, and a nigger there, and a nigger way back there. Got them pretty well distributed." But even if the audience wasn't right for him, he was going to be right for the audience.

"I sucked a dick once. Back in 1952. It was a beautiful dick but I went home and never told anybody about it because I couldn't deal with it."

Richard Pryor was plumbing the recesses of his memory, telling the white folks all the things they wished they'd heard when they were watching the nameless comics on Ed Sullivan doing step-and-fetch-it routines about the first man on the surface of the sun. They watched Pryor boldly go where no black man had gone before and they couldn't deal with it. They lost him when he started talking about "ass-holes" because he didn't use the white word for it. This gay crowd couldn't

relate to Pryor's old friend Wilmer. "He'd wrap his thighs around you — make you come real quick that way." No wonder Pryor was confused.

"How can a homosexual be racist?" he asked. "You got a problem down in Watts. Not that nobody sucks dick. You hear it a lot on the street — 'suck my dick.' But there aren't any homosexuals — 'Homo-what? Ain't no homosexuals in this family. Bunch of faggots.'"

The crowd was totally confused. Finally they started to boo. "I was waiting for that," said Pryor. "I wanted to see where you were really at — cause remember, I'm a human being, too." Some cheers. "Just wait till you get to the parking lot — Ed Davis is waiting for you out there."

The punchline, as reported, in the press: "You can kiss my rich black ass." Yeah, he said that. It was well deserved. And when it was over, the producer, Aaron Russo, came out and sputtered a stream of cretinous palaver apologizing for the embarrassment Pryor had caused. He would have apologized for Dick Gregory, too, I bet. The audience should have been the ones to apologize — they thought it

(Continued on page 6)

## Perry Raises \$100,000, Ends Fast

LOS ANGELES — Rev. Troy Perry, founder of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches, ended his sixteen-day fast last Wednesday night after raising \$100,000 in cash and pledges. Rev. Perry had promised to continue the fast until he raised that sum of money in order to fight the proposed Briggs initiative that would ban openly gay teachers from the California public schools.

The \$100,000 will go to an organization called the California Fund for Human Dignity, which has been organized specifically to fight the proposed initiative.

Perry, who had subsisted on water and one vitamin pill a day, ended his fast on the front steps of the Los Angeles Federal Building at 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday night. He reportedly

remained in good spirits throughout the fast but by the end his body was considerably weakened. The MCC minister will now take a few days off to recuperate and regain his strength. The fast was Perry's first major public fast since 1970 when he abstained from food for ten days in an effort to persuade Los Angeles city officials to come and talk to him. That effort was also successful.

The anti-gay initiative, sponsored by California State Senator and gubernatorial candidate John Briggs, needs to get 312,404 signatures by Nov. 15 in order to be placed on the June ballot for a state-wide vote. The money raised by Rev. Perry will be used to wage a counter-offensive in an effort to block the anti-gay forces from gathering the necessary number of signatures.

# news notes

## STOPPING 'VIOLENT' WOMEN UNIT

BOSTON — The Coalition for Institutional Violence, a coalition of women representing many Boston organizations, have called for a demonstration to oppose the proposed unit for 'violent' women now being constructed at Worcester State Hospital. The demonstration will be held on Saturday, October 1, at the Boston Common at 12 noon.

Women opposed to the unit have expressed fears that the proposed unit would be aimed at lesbian and political women. They charge that the usual legislative process of holding a public hearing and appointing a special committee were both bypassed. Opponents also fear that behavior modification and drugging will be used in the unit and note that no safeguards have been written against the use of shock treatment or psycho-surgery there.

Among the organizations calling for the march are the Cambridge Women's Center, the Boston Bail Project, the Alliance to End Sexual Coercion, PUMA, Friends and Families of Prison, and Mental Patients Liberation Front. For more information, people are urged to contact the Coalition to Stop Institutional Violence, c/o Women's School, 595 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, 02139 or call 492-4B45 Tuesday and Thursday, 3-6 p.m. or Wednesday from 5:30-8:30 p.m.

## DISCHARGE REVIEW

WASHINGTON, D.C. — October 4 is the final day to contact the Special Discharge Review Program which the Department of Defense is operating to review less-than-honorable (General or Undesirable) discharges from the armed forces. Persons discharged due to homosexuality are eligible to have their cases reviewed. The special telephone to determine such eligibility and make application for review is (toll free) 800-325-4040.

## GAY MORMONS ORGANIZE

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH — AFFIRMATION/G.M.U. (Gay Mormons United), a relatively new group for active, inactive, and excommunicated members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, and interested friends thereof, was officially organized on June 11, 1977 in Salt Lake City during that city's Conference on Human Rights. The Rev. James E. Sandmire, a presiding elder in the UFMCC, and a former authority in the Mormon Church himself, was in attendance and gave the closing prayer. Since the formation, AFFIRMATION/ G.M.U. has grown from sixteen to almost eighty members on a national level, with five chapters by October 1977, in Salt Lake City, Denver and Philadelphia. Anyone interested should contact S. Matthew Price, National Director, P.O. Box 9638, Denver, CO. His telephone is (303) 831-4203.

## ENSIGN'S BOOK: SMOOTH SAILING

NEW YORK — Avon Books has bought the manuscript rights to Vernon ("Copy") Berg's *Get Off My Ship*, a book dealing with the former Ensign's expulsion from the US Navy because of his homosexuality. The book, which is to be published at this time next year, will include 21 chapters of narrative description of Berg and his lover's, Lawrence Gibson, ordeal from their first confrontation with government agents in Italy through their 'trial' in Norfolk up to the present. Avon, which is a subsidiary of the Hearst Corporation, has also purchased 24 illustrations for the book by Berg.

Berg, was ousted from the Navy with a "less than honorable" discharge and is still pursuing his case in the US Court of Appeals. In addition, his lover is also preparing to file a case against the US Civil Service Commission and the Navy for terminating his services as an English instructor because of association with Berg. Both cases are being handled by E. Carrington Boggan, a gay New York lawyer.

## WHEN MOLESTATION IS OK

MILWAUKEE, WI — A Milwaukee County judge dismissed a sexual assault charge against a man who was arrested by an undercover policewoman. "If you want to go out there and pose as a lady of the evening — that you are available for money, it is consent," said Judge Ralph Gorenstein. The judge dismissed a fourth-degree sexual assault charge filed against a Milwaukee man, who was accused of indecently touching an undercover police officer.

The police officer, Christine Leonard, was standing on a street corner, posing as a prostitute when she "observed the defendant reach around her shoulder and grab her left breast, kissing her at the same time," the police complaint said.

In his decision Judge Gorenstein differentiated between "battery" and "touching." "There was no harm done here besides touching," said the judge.

Calling the judge's reasoning "absolutely outrageous," District Attorney E. Michael McCann said that he would appeal.



## PRO-GAY JUDGE NAMED

CONCORD, NH — US District Court Judge Hugh Bownes was nominated last week by President Carter to the First Circuit Court of Appeals. Bownes has been the federal judge for New Hampshire since 1968, and is remembered for his 1975 ruling that the Gay Students Organization of the University of New Hampshire has a legal right to hold social activities on the college's Durham campus. Bownes was roundly attacked for the ruling at the time by New Hampshire Gov. Meldrim Thomson and Manchester Union-Leader publisher William Loeb, who assailed the judge in an editorial entitled "Judicial Tyranny."

## FLEEING FROM 'GAY'

GLOUCESTER, MA. — After Knoxville, Tennessee's flap about the name 'Gay Street,' fear of the word 'gay' appears to be moving north. The following item appeared, as printed, in the September 10 issue of the Gloucester Daily Times:

### Legal Notice

#### CHANGE OF VESSEL'S NAME

Notice is hereby given that an order dated 2 September 1977 has been issued by the undersigned authorizing the name of the Oil Screw GAY WIND official number 278350, owned by Adam Smith Fish Company, Inc. of which GLOUCESTER, MASS. is the home port, be changed to Marianne-Dan.

M.D. FINKELMAN, Marine Documentation Assistant  
By direction, Commander  
First Coast Guard District  
Gloucester, Mass.

Sept. 8, 9, 10, 12

## VANCOUVER DEFEAT

VANCOUVER, B.C. — The British Columbia Court of Appeals has ruled 2-1 in favor of an appeal by the Vancouver Sun and has overturned the 1975 landmark decision of the province's Human Rights Board of Inquiry which ordered the Sun to accept an advertisement for *Gay Tide*. The Vancouver daily had refused the advertisement for the gay publication in October, 1974 without giving any reasons. After the Human Rights Board decision, the ad was resubmitted to the Sun which refused the ad again and then appealed unsuccessfully to the British Columbia Supreme Court. The Sun's latest appeal, however, was successful.

*Gay Tide* has promised to pursue the case. "What was 'on trial' wasn't simply GATE and the right of *Gay Tide* to advertise in the Vancouver Sun," wrote the outraged gay newspaper in an editorial. "What was 'on trial' was the very social legitimacy of same-sex love and its physical expression and by extension, the right of those of us who define ourselves as lesbians and gay men, to enjoy full equality before the law."

## EPISCOPALIANS SECEDE

ST. LOUIS, MO — Angered by the church's liberal views on issues like ordination of women and gay people, disaffected Episcopalians seceded from the church last week and pledged themselves to set up a new provisional church to be called the Anglican Church of North America. Nearly 50 congregations, including 16 parishes who have already left, have become involved in the dissident movement. An interim charter for the proposed church, which would still keep ties to Canterbury, the seat of the Anglican Church in England, was received with a standing ovation at the three-day conference.

## LESBIAN LIT COURSE

BOSTON — Boston Center of Adult Education is offering *Lesbian Themes in Literature* in its fall selection of courses at 5 Commonwealth Ave. The course will cover authors from Sappho to Adrienne Rich, and is taught by GCN contributor Paula Bennett. It will meet Monday evenings at 8. For registration information call the center at 267-4430.

## EAVES UNDER FIRE

ATLANTA — A. Reginald Eaves, the Atlanta Public Safety Commissioner, is under investigation for allegedly ordering that answers to police promotion examinations to be given to favored black officers to insure their advancement, the New York Times reports. Eaves recently failed to answer GCN requests for comment when it was revealed that the Atlanta police department questioned prospective employees as to their sexual preference on its lie detector tests.

The inquiry centers on charges by four black police officers in affidavits that the answers to questions on a standard examination were given, at Eaves' request, to several black officers, including four past presidents of the Afro-American Patrolmen's League.

Atlanta Mayor Maynard Jackson, a close friend of Eaves, is expected to announce shortly whether or not he will ask for the Commissioner's resignation. Jackson is a candidate for re-election this October 4.

## 'YES' AND 'NO' ON COPS

SAN FRANCISCO — The San Francisco Police Commission has approved a new equal opportunity plan that will include the recruitment of gay police officers, as well as ethnic minorities and women, the Advocate reports. Police Chief Charles Gain asserted that once the current recruiting list expires in April, 1979, "there will be a definite emphasis toward minority recruitment, including gays."

Meanwhile in San Diego, it is reported that the police department is the only city agency still barring gay employees. Assistant City Manager Ray Blair, Jr., asserts that "This unwritten policy exists because it is Police Chief (William) Kolender's judgement that anyone who is overtly gay may be subject to emotional instability that would interfere with his or her performing the duties of a police officer."



Thousands jam Charles Street for the outdoor happening. Included in the annual event were all kinds of exhibits, food, information, and organizational displays.



Gay Legislation's outdoor booth at Boston's Charles Street Fair, held last Sunday, September 18. Left to right are Gay Legislation coordinator Joe Martin and volunteers Tom Connolly, Frank McCauley, and Bill Paul.

## A Day At the Charles Street Fair



Rep. Barney Frank registers voters.  
Photos by Marcus, Hanover Studios



Project Lambda's Rev. Randy Gibson at the Fair.

### MASSACHUSETTS VOTE DUE

The Massachusetts House of Representatives is set to vote on H3676, the civil service employment bill, within the next week. Gay Legislation '77 has resumed lobbying for the bill and strongly urges all concerned lesbians and gay men to write their representatives and urge them to support the bill. Gay Legislation is giving highest priority to attempting to delete the Parker amendment from H3676. That amendment calls for a non-binding public referendum on the legislation. As legislators tend to be afraid to vote against the "democratic process," the lobbyists see defeat of the Parker amendment as their most crucial and difficult task. Anyone interested in lobbying for the bill or in need of more information should call Gay Legislation at 742-4811.



# Koch, Bellamy Triumph in New York Primary

By Neil Miller

NEW YORK — US Rep. Edward Koch and New York State Senator Carol Bellamy swept to victory in last week's New York City Democratic primary election run-off, assuring that city of a pro-gay mayor and city council president for the first time in several years. Koch, who broadened his liberal Manhattan political base by courting white, working class voters with support for capital punishment and a "get tough" policy on looters, overwhelmed New York Secretary of State Mario Cuomo by 431,849 votes to 354,222. Sen. Bellamy, who was virtually unknown to the electorate at the beginning of the campaign, vanquished veteran political figure Paul O'Dwyer in the city council presidency race by 435,635 votes to 305,987.

Koch must now face Republican State Senator Roy Goodman, Conservative Party choice Barry Farber, and Cuomo, who will be on the ballot on the Liberal Party line, in the No-

vember election. However, in a city where Democrats outnumber Republicans by a 4-1 majority, the Democratic nomination is virtually tantamount to election, and last week Koch was behaving as if he had already been elected mayor. Although Cuomo keeps the Liberal Party designation, there are indications not only that his political mentor, Governor Hugh Carey, will switch his support to Koch, but that Cuomo himself may not campaign heavily.

Despite Rep. Bella Abzug's pre-election endorsement of Koch's rival, Cuomo, an analysis of the vote tabulations indicated that Koch had inherited much of Abzug's support. Gay voters won heavily for Abzug in the preliminary election, but even in that vote, Koch appears to have polled a respectable total among gay voters. In last week's primary final, Koch captured all three districts which Abzug had won in the first voting round, outpolling Cuomo in the heavily-gay

Greenwich Village-Chelsea A.D. by 14,525 votes to Cuomo's 7,740. Bellamy did even better than Koch in that district, polling 16,143 votes to O'Dwyer's 5,768.

Koch has been a consistent supporter of gay rights since the 1960s and, since Abzug's departure from the US House of Representatives, has been the leading sponsor of the national gay rights bill in Congress. Koch has committed himself to work for the passage of Intro 554, the New York City gay rights ordinance, which has failed to pass the city council in the last few years. He has stated that even if the council fails to pass the bill, he would issue an executive order giving homosexuals some civil rights protection. Koch, along with three other candidates, had received a "preferred" rating from the gay voting organization. Prior to the final vote, an *ad hoc* committee of openly gay people, including Alan Roskoff, Jean O'Leary, and David Rothenberg, circulated a

leaflet supporting both Koch and Bellamy.

Bellamy's victory has caused considerable excitement among feminists, including National Gay Task Force co-director Jean O'Leary, who praised Bellamy as "the most exciting, up-and-coming political event/person in our city." As a state senator, Bellamy was a strong supporter of gay rights legislation.

### Bella Back to the House?

There were indications last week that former Rep. Bella Abzug might run for Koch's seat in the House of Representatives, assuming that the East Side representative is elected Mayor in November as is expected. Abzug, who finished a dismal fourth in the preliminary primary vote, said last week that she was considering the congressional race as an "option." A successor to Koch will be chosen in a special election early next year.

## D.C. Council Rejects Anti-Gay Amendment 12-1

WASHINGTON, D.C. — A proposal to ban the employment of gay people in institutions where they must work with children or handicapped people was defeated in the Washington, D.C. city council by a 12-1 vote. The amendment, made by member-at-large Douglas E. Moore, came as the council was routinely re-enacting the city's Human Rights Act. Under that act, discrimination is forbidden in employment, education, housing and public accommodations against several categories of people, including gay people.

In speaking for his proposal, council member Moore asserted that homosexuals were "against the interest of the family and children." "The D.C. public schools," he said, "should not have to have children taught by homosexuals, male or female, black, red, white, green, or whatever color you want to call them . . . The state has a responsibility to protect our children. The state does not let blind pilots fly, so why let homosexuals be employed around our children."

However, Moore found no support for his proposal among the other coun-

cil members and Councillor John A. Wilson stated that "there are no statistics that prove or lend credence to any of (his) comments. A large segment of our community is defamed by insinuating that this group is the only group capable of deviant sexual activity. The comments have no basis."

Councilperson Marion Berry denounced the proposal as "medieval thought" and said, "I will never vote for such language. This the kind of thing you'd expect to hear in Germany in 1939. With the last breath in my

body, I would never vote for this," she said.

In his rebuttal, Moore criticized analogies of gay civil rights to black civil rights, expressed by other councillors. "White gays are never discriminated against in trying to get into a place to get a hamburger, or a job, or housing," said Moore, who is black. "You've never seen a sign that said, 'No Gays to Drink from This Faucet' . . . And to compare them to the black civil rights movement is to fall into the hands of fascist faggots."

# speaking out

## On Sex in Public

by Richard Hall

I was on the beach at Fire Island during one of the last warm days of fall, playing Scrabble with my host, when he pointed behind me and said, "Oh my God, look at that."

I turned to find two nude men strolling toward us arm in arm. This was neither new or surprising except for one detail. The men were in a state of advanced sexual arousal — indeed at better than half-mast in both cases. Our Scrabble game stopped, as did all the conversations going on around us. The two men, who were stunningly handsome, came almost up to us, then stopped and began a bout of prolonged and passionate kissing. They did this while standing kneedeep in the ocean, the wavelets licking and swirling about them in tiny puffs of creamy foam, in a gay up-date of the beach scene in *From Here to Eternity*.

When they broke apart (finally), they were even more inflamed. In fact, the masts were now pointing to heaven. After some further fondling, they turned and strolled back in the direction from which they had come, arms interlaced, hands lightly massaging each other's asses, leaving one observer in a state of near-terminal agitation. In fact, I had the distinct impression that the beach pageant around me had faded, leaving not a rack behind, and I had been forcibly removed to the front row of my favorite porno house.

As I thought about this episode later, after calming down (a rather laborious process), I began to feel annoyed. Although I don't wish to deprive anyone of his freedom to make love, neither do I wish to be deprived of my own right not to watch. It occurred to me that the right to be free of sex, to be free of arousal, is just as precious as the right to enjoy it. My autonomic nervous system, ever ready to respond to random and randy stimuli, had betrayed me into a reaction that did not accord with my real preferences of the moment. In effect, I had been capsized into a sea of emotion I was not prepared for.

As I ruminated on this, I realized, with an unpleasant start, that I was lining up on the same side of the fence as the prudes, moralists and homophobes — all the people I have hated most of my life. My first reaction, then, was to give the lovers the benefit of the doubt. Couldn't I have averted my eyes? Gotten up and walked away? Or, if I was afraid of this sort of thing, stayed away from the Pines altogether?

But these admonitions didn't quite satisfy me. In some way I felt that my space was intruded upon, my liberty violated. It was a paradox that rather intrigued me.

I began to reflect on beach apparel and behavior in general. A century ago, men and women were draped from head to toe in bathing wear and dipped into the water behind huge "bath machines" which hid them from public view. Even a generation ago, men had to wear tops with their bathing suits; presumably bared chests were too visually stimulating or immodest (or both) to be allowed. The bottoms tended to be loose and droopy, camouflaging the crotch and reaching half-way to the knees. After a while tops disappeared and the drawers shrank. But it has only been for a decade that the swag of cloth or *cache-sexe* for males has really been okay — crossing the Atlantic first from the Riviera beaches.

Each of these changes was fought against in a desperate rearguard action by prudes. What the prudes did not — could not — foresee was that each new expanse of naked flesh would provoke some means of neutralizing its potential for arousal. As we have come to view more and more of the human body — in films, plays, streets and beaches — we have learned to handle the erotic response involved. Through self-control, conditioning, or plain familiarity, we have learned to tame our responses and keep them latent — for better or worse. In effect, we have desexualized ever larger portions of the human body in the interests of social order and personal tranquility. (It is this same kind of process that has de-eroticized women's breasts in certain African tribes where they are constantly on display, and presumably did the same in Minoan Crete).

The process is nowhere better illustrated than in nudist camps, where the rule, written or unwritten, is that one may not engage in explicitly erotic behavior while nude in public. The greater the potential for arousal, in other words, the stricter the curbs on overt action. This might be called the negative orgy rule — or, keep away when you're in the altogether.

Growing up, or at least functioning as an adult, depends to a great extent on restraining one's response to sexual stimuli. Whether this is more difficult for men than for women is one of the more interesting questions growing out of the women's movement. At any rate, *not* to restrain oneself, at least with strangers, is seen as crude, selfish or pathological and — at its worst — criminal.

I think all this gives us a new way to view the handsome lovers at Fire Island.



By careful training over the years, I have learned to cope with the splendors of the male form. On the street I can gasp inwardly while stepping coolly past; on the stage I can rivet my attention on a fine basket while not missing a line of dialogue; at the beach I can run phantom fingers over a splendid ass while solving a crossword puzzle. Even nudity can be handled with some detachment, not only due to long experience in public showers, but through visits to nudist camps.

I have only learned to cope, however, with flesh that is *passively* displayed. I have not learned to handle active erotic behavior. The former is sexually inciting through the assistance of my imagination; the latter is stimulating whether I will it or not. When open passion is added to nudity my controls fly out the window. I am left helplessly eroticized. The strongest neural response of which my body is capable — except for the fear of death — is now raging through me, a firestorm of lust.

To sum it up — I believe that gay people who declare that sex anywhere in public is liberating or "revolutionary" are actually tearing one clause of the social contract to shreds. It is the sexual equivalent to shouting "Fire!" in a crowded theater, a freedom not included in the Bill of Rights, at least according to Mr. Justice Holmes.

Lest I be misunderstood — there are plenty of public places set aside by custom, where sex infringes on no-one's right to remain unstimulated. I've had my share, and more, of orgasms in bars, porno movies and baths. What I object to specifically, is sex in places that are not set apart for it — which are, indeed, set apart for other things. I fear that as gay people press the boundaries of sexual freedom farther and farther, into territory where it doesn't belong, we will give the prudes real ammunition against us, not in the name of "decency" but because their space, their right to serenity, has been violated.

I should add, in conclusion, that after I aired these thoughts with my host, he disagreed totally. He declared that Fire Island, as the resort of last resort, should be kept safe for sexual encounters of all degree, anywhere or anytime. "After all," he clucked unsympathetically, "you might have gone to Martha's Vineyard or Far Rockaway. Your chances for non-arousal there are practically endless."

Well — he has a point. But so do I.

*("Speaking Out" is a column designed for the benefit of GCN readers. We encourage you to send your thoughts, ideas, feelings to Speaking Out, GCN, 22 Bromfield Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02108. The opinions expressed in the "Speaking Out" column do not necessarily reflect the views of the newspaper or those of individual members of the GCN staff.)*

### WARNING

GCN has received a report that plainclothes security guards are patrolling the 2nd floor men's room at the Jordan Marsh department store. GCN strongly urges men to avoid this spot.

### JOB OPPORTUNITY

GCN is looking for a part-time Features Editor. Applicants should have a background in journalism and the arts as well as a knowledge of the Boston area gay community. Anyone interested should call Lester at 426-4469 or send their resume to GCN, 22 Bromfield Street, Boston, Mass. 02108.

### LISTINGS

Inadvertently left out of GCN's Guide to Gay Boston last week were the Gallery Cafe, That's Italian, and the Homophile Community Health Service. The Gallery Cafe, located next to Chaps at 21 Huntington Avenue, is a small, intimate cafe with art on the walls and lots of cake and coffee on the menu. That's Italian is a new Italian restaurant located in East Boston near the Orient Heights Blue Line station. The Homophile Community Health Service is a counseling service for gay men and women located at 80 Boylston Street, Boston.



## gcn contributors

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# community voice

## mayor's boys?

Dear Editor:

David Brill's generally perceptive survey of municipal candidates in Boston is a little unfair to two of the best of those candidates: Steve Farrell and Arnie Waters who are running for City Council.

They are exceptionally good candidates — humane, honest, and conscientious. David says they are "the Mayor's boys," and that is incorrect.

Steve has worked in the past for Mayor White but he is an independent person not under anyone's dominance. For example, he disagrees sharply with the Mayor on rent control and district elections for Council — which Steve supports and the Mayor opposes.

Arnie helped fight the Mayor's Charter Change proposal, and also supports rent control and district councils. Neither appears to me to be getting Mayoral help and both will be able, independent Councillors if elected.

Sincerely,

Barney Frank

(David Brill replies: I would respectfully disagree. As I and a number of other Boston political writers saw it, Mr. Waters' and Mr. Farrell's many years of service to the mayor [in the Mayor's Office of Public Service, Little City Halls, ABCD, the Youth Activities Commission, and the Mayor's Office of Human Rights] outweigh disagreement over one or two issues. John Kerrigan, for example, supported the Mayor's charter reform proposal, but is not considered to be a White loyalist. It is a sign of the times that even the Mayor's supporters would rather not admit it. I agree with Rep. Frank's opinions about the quality of the two candidates, however.)

## watch out, rita mae

Dear GCN:

Ellen B. Davis' article "How I Survived the Rookie Syndrome" was an absolute joy to read. The article was touching, amusing, and so true. I imagine many of us (lesbians) have had similar experiences with similar "rookies."

I don't know what Ellen does for a living, but if she's not spending most of her time writing she's neglecting an obvious gift.

Please! More articles by Ellen B. Davis — Rita Mae Brown — Watch out!!

(Name withheld — regretfully — as I'm involved with a "first time-closet rookie")

## womenspace and unity

Dear GCN:

I know the separatism/unity question is a source of great discord within the gay community these days but ought you to encourage it so freely?

We all know the Saints is a bar for women, whether we like it or not, but must those of us who choose not to like it constantly react like the whining child of eight who is not allowed to attend his/her parents' dinner party?

The question of whether or not Womenspace (or Blackspace or Handicappedspace, etc.) is appropriate as an issue to be dealt with in a mature journalistic manner. I object to your childish backstabbing and intentional misinterpretations.

David Brill ("News Commentary," 9/24/77) mentions that the Saints does not allow GCN to print its address in the bar section. Is he intentionally misleading your readers or are we really to believe that he has no idea that the Saints does not allow any newspaper (including *Sister Courage* and *Sojourner*) to print their address?

And in GCN's Guide to Gay Boston, the Saints is listed with the sole descriptive phrase, *definitely women only*. Similar sarcasm might have easily been directed against the Shed or Herbie's Ramrod Room. It wasn't though, and I must confess, I'm hardly surprised.

I hate to tell you how many times I've listened to one of the bartenders at the Saints explain politely and patiently to some drunken refugee from a local convention the theory of womenspace.

With attitudes such as demonstrated in GCN recently, it seems that unity is a long way off.

Marie Champlain

## collective effort

To the Editor:

Thank you for the comprehensive interview Neil Miller conducted and painstakingly edited for the Sept. 17 issue of GCN. I was obviously pleased. The headline and introduction however have prompted a bit of personal embarrassment. No person can be a "one person reformation." Everything we do is the result of inspiration by others who courageously preceded us and the work and support of countless others who quietly surround us. Such was true with the "Call to Action" conference in Detroit. While I was the only openly gay spokesperson among 1,300 Catholic delegates, there was a lot of behind the scenes work done by local Dignity people and by supportive non-gay delegates.

Sincerely,

Brian McNaught  
Brookline, MA

## equal time

(Editor's note: The following response to GCN's Boston candidates questionnaire was received too late for inclusion in last week's Special Pre-election Survey.)

Dear GCN,

The following information is in response to your questionnaire for candidates in the September 27th Preliminary Election.

Questions 1-3:

To be quite honest with you, at the present time I do not have sufficient information to make an informed judgment on these matters. However, I will welcome input regarding issues of concern from all residents of Boston.

Question 4:

The United States Supreme Judicial Court, when it reconvenes in October, is expected to decide whether to hear the James Gaylord case. The ruling of the Court in this case will determine the status of present and future local ordinances, state and federal regulations and court decisions. I would not sup-



port any change of local ordinances pending the decision in this case.

Question 5:

I am a firm supporter of *meaningful* Charter Reform which would include 1) recall provisions to enable voters to remove elected officials, 2) district representation on both the City Council and the School Committee and 3) a limitation on the number of terms (consecutive or total) that can be served by all elected officials in the City of Boston. Furthermore, I would like to strengthen the powers of the City Council to provide a system of "checks and balances" in the city government.

Comments:

The City of Boston has the dubious distinction of having one of the highest costs of living in the country. Much of this cost is a direct result of grossly inflated rent levels. The rent control program in Boston should be strengthened and administratively improved. Properly administered rent control would help prevent further unjustifiable increases and could be a very efficient aid in the collection of taxes from landlords.

Thank you for your coverage of the campaign. If further information is desired, I will be glad to be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Celia M. Sniffin  
Candidate for  
City Council

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## New York, New York

By Harold Pickett

NEW YORK — Kenneth Sherrill, political science professor at Hunter College and member of the Gay Independent Democrats and the Gay Academic Union, won his primary race for District Leader in the Democratic primary. Sherrill carried the election by about a 2-1 margin. He is the first open gay to win any election in New York City. As the Democratic candidate, his Fall election to the position is 98% certain. Sherrill's district is 69, located in Manhattan's upper-West side. It has a large gay population (Sherrill estimates it's 20% gay) and large Puerto Rican and Black communities.

Sherrill's campaign was slow getting started. I'm disappointed that some individuals and organizations involved specifically in mainstream politics didn't come to his support sooner. I hope they'll not be as negligent in the future. Nevertheless, Sherrill won the primary due to gay support.

Christopher Street magazine and Gaysweek both published articles on the primary election and on the gay

candidates. These articles helped bring Sherrill the attention and support he deserved. About two days before the primary, his old gay friends from previous activities and campaigns began to materialize. As a result of the gay media publicity, a man from Durham, North Carolina, vacationing in New York City, called up the headquarters and volunteered 20 hours of work. At least half-a-dozen people took off from work primary day to help out.

Sherrill's campaign also stalled due to financial difficulties. He could have used some of the 'nouveau riche' support that Bella received. He was taken for granted. Sherrill says we "can elect gay people and create our own physical presence. Too many people just want to be around stars" — a reference to Abzug and Shirley McLaine, who campaigned for her. His election will "create a gay presence at every Democratic function."

Sherrill's highest priorities in his district are proper police and fire protection, sanitation, and housing. "These

issues affect us all, whether gay or straight." Again, "Housing is a serious issue. 'Alleged' roommates have trouble getting into co-operative housing. Housing issues also affect unmarried heterosexual couples and the rights of single people."

Sherrill is now involved in building momentum to elect gay candidates Gary Deane and Chuck Thompson to the City Council. Deane is running on the Liberal Party ticket from his Brooklyn district, which includes Brooklyn Heights with its large gay population. Chuck Thompson is the Republican candidate opposing Democratic Councilwoman Carol Greitzer. Their district includes the West Village, part of the East Village, Chelsea, Murray Hill and Gramercy Park areas.

When I asked Sherrill about his support of Thompson in opposing Greitzer, he asked "What has Greitzer done for gay rights?"

I asked, "But won't you, as a Democrat, get in trouble supporting a Republican candidate?"

Sherrill replied, "How can I? I already won the primary!"

Renee Ruys, arrested at the Aug. 25 demonstration at Gracie Mansion, residence of Mayor Beame, has had his court date postponed until Oct. 3.

Joe Kennedy, Chairperson of the Political Action Committee of GAA informs me of two up-coming events.

Sunday, Sept. 25, gay activists are renaming the 'Great Lawn' in Central Park to 'Gay Meadow.' As so many gay people relax, play, and sun-bathe there, it's only appropriate. They will hang signs from the lamp poles proclaiming the new name. Afterwards, at 12 noon, there's a picnic planned. The Great Lawn (Gay Meadow) is located near 78th St., north of the Rambles.

On Saturday, Oct. 1st, at 12:30 p.m., there will be a picket line at the Jesuit Provincial Headquarters, home of Rev. Eamon Taylor, Superior of the New York Province of Jesuits. The headquarters is located at 501 East Fordham Road in the Bronx. Take the 'D' train to the Fordham Rd. stop and walk east. Taylor called the Vatican move to silence Fr. John McNeill on the subject of homosexuality a "wise" decision. The theme of the picketing is "Gays Will Not Be Silenced." The demonstration is supported by the Social Action Committee of Dignity and by the Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights.

A recent fund-raiser held by the Gay Activists Alliance was extremely successful. Linda Morris originated and headed the event which featured Rita Mae Brown as a speaker. About 150 people attended and \$300 was raised for the organization. Ms. Morris plans to continue a monthly series of fund-raising addresses by prominent people.

## Richard Pryor Causes an Uproar

(Continued from page 1).

was so funny when he called Anita Bryant "that cunt!" but they couldn't stand to be told about "all the black girls who dig to eat pussy who aren't here tonight."

Bette Midler came on. The divine Ms. M seemed pretty pale after what had gone before. She was well polished (arriving on stage a half hour late due to the confusion generated by Pryor's abrupt departure), but her timidity affirmed what Pryor had felt about the shallowness of the benefit. She scraped her knee and made a big fuss about it — causing me to think of the story of Billie Holliday's return to Carnegie

Hall after a year at Lexington, when she pierced her head with a hatpin and went on with her hair all matted back with blood and said not a word about it. A man rushed onstage to Ms. Midler and she cowered behind the band. "Now you see me for what I really am — a coward," she said.

The punchline came at the end of the performance, when there was a really terrific fireworks display lasting fifteen minutes. Get it? That black man Pryor was talking about couldn't even carry a little torch. All of which failed to address the central question: How can homosexuals be racist?



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# Mass. Officials Discuss MDC Harassment

By David Brill

BOSTON — Officials of the Dukakis Administration met last Wednesday, Sept. 21, with representatives of the gay community to discuss harassment of gay men by Metropolitan District Commission (MDC) police officers. The meeting was held in the office of Secretary of Environmental Affairs Evelyn Murphy, with Murphy, Assistant Secretary Joan Tuttle, and MDC Commissioner John F. Snedeker present.

Representatives of the gay community included Gay Legislation coordinator Joe Martin, Rep. Barney Frank, Boston attorney Richard Rubino, and John Reinstein, general counsel to the Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts.

Rep. Frank began the meeting by asking "how long this harassment is going to continue?" Frank cited continuing reports of police pressure at the Cambridge "Bird Sanctuary," Revere Beach, and along the Esplanade. The Cambridge area has been the site of many arrests for "unnatural acts" over the last few years, while police at the other two areas have been regularly using such tactics as name-calling and enforcement of non-existent "curfews."

Frank asked Snedeker to limit police presence to locations where documented complaints from individuals can be produced. And in that case, he suggested that a visible marked vehicle be used to dissuade persons from entering the area, rather than arresting men on felony charges.

Snedeker said the complaints about the Esplanade "are new to me." He maintained, however, that the MDC

had received a dozen complaints between May and August of this year concerning male cruising the Bird Sanctuary. He said the complaints came from officials of the Browne and Nichols School, the nearby American Legion post, and passing motorists. He insisted that complaints were also received from the Revere Beach area, which is directly opposite the MDC police station.

Murphy, who is Snedeker's boss, asked the commissioner to make sure the police "are not yelling" at the gay men in these areas, and suggested he designate a supervisor who would be specifically assigned to monitor complaints and resultant police activities. Snedeker agreed to assign an administrative

lieutenant to the position.

Rubino, who has defended many men arrested by MDC police, pointed out that in most cases, men arrested in cruising areas have no records, yet are often dealt with much more harshly by local courts than are persons arrested on much more serious offenses. "The punishment is much more serious than the crime," Rubino said. Some men arrested in the Bird Sanctuary have been found guilty and given fines of as high as \$500, Rubino said.

The crime of "unnatural acts" is a felony in Massachusetts, and men so convicted are often stigmatized for life because of a relatively minor indiscretion, he added.

Murphy asked Snedeker whether the

police policy was to scatter the cruising or to make arrests. "Some of both," he answered.

The meeting concluded after Snedeker agreed to make clear to MDC police officers that anti-gay harassment was unacceptable, and that police actions should be commensurate with documented complaints.

Rep. Frank, who called the meeting, said he was satisfied with the results. He emphasized that men in outdoor cruising areas would have to accept some police patrols in the event of complaints, but expressed optimism that areas like the Esplanade — which is in Frank's district — would no longer be the site of reports of police misbehavior.

## Screen Actors Guild, Stars Back Fundraising Event

LOS ANGELES — The Board of Directors of Hollywood's Screen Actors Guild and a host of Hollywood stars and personalities announced their support of "A Star Spangled Night for Rights" last week just before the Hollywood Bowl fund-raising event. The fund-raiser, produced by Aaron Russo, was organized to raise funds to fight against the anti-gay initiative proposed by Sen. John Briggs.

In its statement, the Screen Actors Guild Board of Directors condemned "the growing attack on human rights and a heightening of discrimination as a result of the recent Anita Bryant backlash."

"These campaigns which are spawned in hatred and fueled by fear and misconception are reaching

dangerous proportions . . ." said the statement. "The attack on school teachers is already being expanded to suggest blacklisting of actors and other creative artists. The entire campaign appears to have brought out the very worst in our society: the fear and hate peddlers, the censors and destroyers. The Board of Directors of the Screen Actors Guild feels it necessary to speak out to restore some balance of perspective and urge everyone to consider carefully that the next person's rights to be invaded may be theirs."

The Screen Actors Guild statement, while it did mention Anita Bryant by name, never used the word "gay" or "homosexual."

Among the large number of Hollywood performers listed as sponsors of

"A Star Spangled Night for Rights" were comedian Woody Allen; singers Barbra Streisand, Joni Mitchell, Eartha Kitt, Paul Williams, Linda Ronstadt, Jack Jones, Donna Summers, Barry White, Helen Reddy, and Bette Midler; rock stars Gregg Allman and Alice Cooper; actors Paul Newman, Burt Lancaster, Jon Voight, Tab Hunter, Gene Hackman, Jack Lemmon and Ryan O'Neill; actresses Lauren Bacall, Ann-Margret, Mary Tyler Moore, Marlo Thomas, Candice Bergen, and Nancy Walker; comedienne Phyllis Diller and Carol Burnett; football player Roosevelt Grier; directors Peter Bogdanovich and John Schlesinger; authors Truman Capote and Christopher Isherwood; and comedian Richard Pryor.

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# Friends & Lovers & What Makes a Photographer

By David Holland and Peter Burgess

Nan Goldin and David Armstrong are friends who spend their summers in Provincetown photographing friends and lovers. Both record a part of their lives in their photographs. Their subjects are similar, but each approaches their subjects with a different eye.

Armstrong's black and white photographs, all fifteen inches square, tend toward the monumental stillness of sculpture. Each subject has stepped away from the backdrop of partying at the Boatclub or on the beach for an intimate dialogue with the photographer. The surroundings are used to frame and isolate each portrait.

Goldin's photographs are more painterly than sculptural. They have a rougher edge than Armstrong's; the focus is less specific and the color is a little off — more grainy and biting than the real. For each photograph, Goldin has stepped in to freeze a moment as the party goes on. The photographs are alive with activity; even the portraits merge with their surroundings.

Both Goldin and Armstrong have drawn from the coolness of fashion photography and the personal involvement of Diane Arbus' work to create a new synthesis. Their complementary visions of a "good life" make for a stunning show of photography.

The photographs can be viewed at Hudson and Tava's Atlantic Gallery, 727 Atlantic Avenue, Boston (near South Station) Wednesday-Saturday 12:00-5:00. The show will run through October 8, and the gallery can be reached by phone at 426-5439. Photographs are courtesy of Atlantic Gallery.

**Holland:** Can you talk about how you got into photography?

Goldin: It was out of a diary. I was living with a group of people on Beacon Hill and I'd come out in more ways than one — in terms of my sexuality, socially. I wanted to record that time. I wanted how I looked, how others looked. It was a question of recording the visual aspects about everyone around me, because so much of our lives together was visual. I was living with people who were doing drag and I wanted to record that. After taking some workshops on the technical aspects of photography my goal became to put a drag on the cover of *Vogue*. I used to steal *Vogue* from Reading International and just pour over them.

Armstrong: Foreign *Vogues*.

Goldin: Foreign *Vogues*, right. I got a lot of ideas from Guy Bordin and Helmut Newton who weren't known in America at the time. This was back in 1971. I started with a Polaroid and slowly got better equipment through my father.

**Holland:** Where were you sending your prints?

Goldin: To the drugstore! Gary drugstore and then we'd get our big thrill for the day by going to get them.

Armstrong: Getting the pictures, getting the qualaludes prescription....

Goldin: And then we'd go to Romano's and just sit and look. The queens would tear up the pictures they didn't like of themselves. My first objective when photographing them was to please them, to show drag queens as being beautiful, because that's how I saw them. So I went to photo school to learn how to use studio lights to make them even more beautiful and that's when I was enlightened to Arbus' works and others and art photography in general.

**Holland:** Why do you choose the subjects you do?

Goldin: They were an outgrowth of my personal experience. Almost all these people were either lovers or friends. Three-quarters of the people hanging in the show were my lovers, the other quarter represents friends.

Armstrong: I know I'm more objective about it.

Goldin: My work is incredibly subjective.

Armstrong: There are a lot of people that I've been involved with who I've looked at and known I didn't want to photograph them because there wasn't potential to make a good photo. As much as I cared about them, they didn't exemplify what I could make a visual statement about or what people could relate to.

**Holland:** If it's a visual diary for you, how do you feel about displaying it publicly?

Goldin: Exposing it to the public?

**Holland:** Having a gallery showing.

Goldin: Because I want to be a known photographer. Since I was in the third grade I've wanted to be famous; it's the only thing that's been consistent in my life. I'm not going to be one of those people that simply passes through life.

**Holland:** So your showing us your life as you pass through it?

Goldin: Absolutely.

Armstrong: A diaphetic journal....

**Holland:** How do you go about attracting your subjects, David?

Armstrong: I look for people whom I think are strong enough or who look dynamic enough simply through their personality.

**Holland:** Are you involved with the people you photograph?

Armstrong: Oh, definitely. There's no way I can get a good photo by me going up to someone I don't know and saying, "Can I take your picture?" You have to relax people in some way so that they'll be open enough so you can get a visual statement about who they are.

**Holland:** Are your photos indicative of you or your subjects?

Armstrong: I like to think of them as a wedding between the two but actually it's the subject's gift to me, to be willing enough to let me photograph them and ultimately show something about themselves on print.

Goldin: I think what's good about his work, and I'm not speaking out of pithy sentiment, but there's something about David that allows people to open themselves up to him. You can see in his pictures that people trust him. In a lot of portraiture you can see that people are still incredibly guarded.

Armstrong: That's what I think is at the base of good portrait work. Somehow you want to scratch at the essence of the person you're taking a picture of: what is unique about them.

**Holland:** Who are some of the people influencing your work?

Armstrong: Diane Arbus.

Goldin: Avedon, Cecil Beaton, Guy Bordin, Helmut Newton, Bill Burke....

Armstrong: Let's not get carried away, Nan.

**Burgess:** What do you see as the relationship between your work and Diane Arbus?

Armstrong: I hadn't seen any work that powerful. I didn't think it possible to make statements as strong as the ones she made in photographs.

Goldin: I think Larry Clark has influenced me more than anyone. He did a book called *Tulsa* and one no one will publish called *Teenage Sex Rites*.

Armstrong: *Teenage Lust*.



Colette by Nan Goldin



Max by David Armstrong

**Holland:** Where do you see the destructive qualities of Arbus' work?

Goldin: I think her later pictures, those untitled, are clearly a suicidal note. There's a great deal of pain in them. You know that woman's about to kill herself.

Armstrong: Exactly. She's much more involved than Clark ever was. It's much more personal and documentary.

Goldin: I'm not saying one is better than the other....

Armstrong: I think Arbus is much better.

Goldin: I'm just saying my work is more closely aligned to Clark's.

**Holland:** Is that where you see your work going: making a serial statement in relation to individual shots?

Goldin: No, that's where I've been. What I've been doing in the past three or four years is a study on the people I've been close to, whether they be gay women or drag queens or gay men, that could be put together as books that would say a whole lot about life that other people don't have any way to get to.

Armstrong: That people could get to what?

Goldin: Those pictures reveal things to those who have never lived that life.

Following a long discussion about other photographic artists David Armstrong began to discuss his work more personally.

Armstrong: I had forsaken my summer to do this work. I found it a very strange process to develop the pictures I was taking. Love affairs became real. They hadn't really existed; they were much more real to see them in photographs — the boys I fell in love with and wanted to take pictures of. Now I had them, I had somehow mummified them — like a collector. It's as if the experience hadn't been finished until the pictures were processed. I had the contact sheet and I was in control and no one could hurt me.

Goldin: I don't feel that immunity from my people.

**Holland:** You've both photographed a wide variety of people. How do different people react to you as a photographer?

Goldin: When I began shooting drag queens, it was at their request. I was in a very subordinate role and I was their photographer or camp follower. If they didn't like the pictures, I didn't print them. As I began to get more a sense of myself as a photographer and a person I started printing whatever I liked. But my subjects developed with me. They (drag queens) let me print more pictures as long as they knew I was shooting them with a sensibility that was closely aligned to their own. When I started photographing lesbians things were different. Many of them asked me if I was in the CIA, or FBI; to some of them that's a real concern, to others, it's a make-believe concern. They weren't used to being photographed and they weren't narcissistic or involved with their visual selves like drag queens were. The lesbians were very hesitant, suspicious and shy. A whole element of trust had to be established: having them photographed and then having them see the pictures. Consequently almost all my pictures are of lovers or friends. Then I've lately begun to do a series on suburbia and they're even more suspicious. I'm not saying that there's something intrinsically valuable about photographing lovers or friends; I'm saying that I've never dealt with strangers.

**Holland:** David, how do your people react to you?

Armstrong: Very well.

Goldin: Thank you.

Armstrong: I usually wait a while. I never like to feel that I'm taking advantage of them in any way. I wouldn't like to take a picture that was essentially my perspective. In every picture I want the feeling that there's something going on between myself and them.

**Holland:** Why do you print color?

Goldin: I see in color. Whenever I saw a black and white picture of my own, I never understood what a good black and white print was. I like very intense color because what I really am is a frustrated painter and now I have an opportunity to take out all that frustration.

**Holland:** There are presently critics who believe that work from an artist who happens to be gay must be viewed with a gay cultural sensibility. What do you think about that?

Goldin: First of all I'm bi-sexual but essentially I hate women's art, black art, gay art, etc. I hate any art that has labels. Art has nothing to do with who you sleep with or what color your skin is. It has to do with what you can produce in terms of art.

**Holland:** Why do you have such a de-  
testation of women's art?

Goldin: A women's film festival I attended was simply a negation or something. It wasn't a statement of anything. This aside that the films were of an extremely poor quality.

Armstrong: It was a denial of life.

**Holland:** What do you mean "it was simply a negation of male influence."

Armstrong: We could all sit around here and speculate whether our favorite artists are gay or straight and we don't know. We have a sense that all the best artists we know are gay, which is probably true....

Goldin: But it has nothing to do with what one does in bed, or in the streets. It has to do with your work. My work has to do with sexuality but it's not "gay art."

**Holland:** Is there such a thing as gay art?

Goldin: There has become such an animal. It has to transcend that narrow scope of it's not art. The women's films were negation of male stereotype roles but the film work was terrible, the color was terrible, the content has been terrible. I'm not trying to say I'm negating my gayness or heterosexuality. What I'm saying is that art that is gay or Afro-American or anything else it loses its validity as art and becomes a symbol of a movement, and that has nothing to do with art.

**Holland:** Do you think being gay and behind the lens of a camera affects what you're photographing?

Armstrong: Definitely, how could you ask that question? If you're gay and behind the camera you're going to be selective in subject matter.

**Holland:** Then your work would have to be viewed with a gay perspective.

Armstrong: Of course. I wouldn't want to be seen not in that perspective.

Goldin: My art doesn't have to do with who I fuck, it has to do with what I think about.



Photographers David Armstrong and Nan Goldin whose works are presently on exhibit at Boston's Atlantic Gallery.

# Rita Mae On the Hotline

Rita Mae Brown's first novel *Rubyfruit Jungle* was published by Vermont's Daughters Press, and has recently been published in a widely available mass-market edition by Bantam Books. Rita Mae has co-authored a film script of *Rubyfruit Jungle* with Arnie Reisman, who was responsible for the film *Hollywood on Trial*. This interview is a direct transcript of a phone call to Rita Mae at her suite at the Copley Plaza.

By S. Blevins

Time: Monday, September 19, 1977.  
SB: Hello. Is this the Copley Plaza?  
CP: Yes.  
SB: Yes. Uh. Could you connect me with Rita Mae Brown's room, please?  
CP: Do you know the number?  
SB: It's two-hundred something, two-fifty, two-sixty . . .  
CP: That's not much help. I have a Bill Brown . . . And I have a Robert Brown . . . a Rita Brown . . .  
SB: That's it.  
CP: 252.  
RMB: Hi. (Packing noises & voices in the background.)  
SB: Hi. The busy life of an author . . .  
RMB: They're all yellin' at me.  
SB: It's amazing.  
RMB: I'm standing here half-

dressed, and they're trying to dress me, so if you hear these moans . . .

SB: That's o.k. I can't see you . . .  
RMB: They're lusting after my perfect body!

SB: Uh, you're on tape.  
RMB: Oh! Put that in! Put it in the show!

SB: Listen, you're listed as Rita Brown. I hardly knew who they were talking about . . .

RMB: Well, you know, what can I tell you?

SB: Maybe you can tell me about the movie?

RMB: Aha! In fact the producers are sitting right here in the room with me, and that's where I was part of last night. The movie was gonna start in June. We thought we were going to start in March but it's just been moved back to June. I found that out. Joan Tewksbury is directing, as you know.

SB: No, I didn't know that, didn't know anything about it.

RMB: Oh. She was the one who wrote *Nashville* . . .

SB: Right.

RMB: And that was the only way I'd ever sell *Rubyfruit Jungle*: if a woman would direct. That was something I could hold out for.

SB: She's a fine writer.

RMB: She did *Thieves Like Us*.

She's good. She just directed a movie about Anna Freud which was a documentary and she's going to do a feature called *Old Boyfriends* before she does *Rubyfruit Jungle*. So in fact it will be her second feature. We're all so excited we can't see straight over it.

SB: Has it been casted yet?

RMB: No. That's being done, and actually, that's the last of the things we need to do. But we get an awfully lot of feedback, which I think is a clue to how many good women are out of work in Hollywood.

SB: People that you know, and people that you don't know?

RMB: I mean the people calling up, like Lee Grant called and talked, and Anne Bancroft. People who have tried to be real helpful. (To others in the room:) Didn't Joanne Woodward call you guys once? Yeah, they talked to her. People have been helpful and supportive. Even if they couldn't do the role because of time conflicts: sending us on to other people and making suggestions. None of us were prepared for that kind of assistance. But it's been great.

SB: It sounds exciting. How did you come to write the script with Arnie (Reisman)?

RMB: Arnie's one of the producers, and in the arrangement I specified that

I wanted to do the script. And so did he. So we said let's see if we can do it together. And we did it together and got along so well that about two weeks ago we finished another script about a murder mystery in Bloomingdales. (Both laugh) Isn't that wonderful. Every gay person in the world is gonna scream! But we can't call it *Bloomingdales*, so we called it *Ferris-Twombly*.

SB: *Ferris-Twombly* sounds like a *Through the Looking Glass* animal. Uh, I really hate gossip but I have heard you've been seeing a starlet from Hollywood with flaxen hair. You know how people talk. I wonder if there's any truth to that?

RMB: It is true that I see someone in Los Angeles with flaxen locks. I would

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not go so far to say she is a star. I would say she's somebody who's, you know, real good looking. It's true I have been seen with this someone, but I won't say who, because that's tacky.

SB: Are you rich?

RMB: Not yet. (Pause) But I very well may be when this is all done.

SB: How has the book been selling?

RMB: Well, it's only been out about two weeks, and it's doing great. It's just such a . . . I mean it's *incredible*. I had a hard time believing it all, you know.

SB: I wonder if middle America is ready for *Rubyfruit Jungle* in the grocery stores and bookstands. Have you gotten a response from people who've seen the second printing? Has your notoriety grown?

RMB: I think so. I just did a phone-in show in New York. A lot of housewives from Queens called in. People said "My 18-year-old daughter gave me this book." They were so great. They loved it.

SB: What about *In Her Day*? I haven't read it yet, shame on me, but I know there were some unfavorable reviews, especially in gay and women's presses, and then there were some good ones. I wonder how you feel about the reception that book got?

RMB: I'll tell you exactly. If I had written *The Bible* as a second novel, it would have gotten an unfavorable review. Second novels are traditionally trounced. I think *In Her Day* is a good book. It's not of interest to a lot of people because it's set in the women's movement which narrows the audience a lot. But I like that book, and I

learned a lot writing it. I loved my characters in it.

SB: Is there any chance you're going to be in the movie of *Rubyfruit Jungle*?

RMB: No. Not unless I'm an extra stand-in, looking silly . . .

SB: Maybe you could be a teacher during the Christmas scene. (Both laugh) That's gonna be my favorite scene. Let's see, what haven't I asked you?

RMB: Oh, did you ask me if I was rich so I would support you?

SB: (Laughs) No: I saw this great cover which I should send to you, which has a beautiful photo of you, and in white letters it says "Has Rita Mae sold out?"

RMB: I saw that too, I laughed myself silly. I just figured people got to sell magazines. I don't take that stuff personally.

SB: So what do you think about politics in movies and politics in books?

RMB: I think art's political. *You* know that that's how I feel about it. I think the opportunity to destroy gay stereotypes is incredible. I'm grateful to have the chance to help do that. *Daughters* and I talked a *long* time before we sold this book to Bantam. You know, of course, they could have made the decision without me, 'cause they have the rights. When you sell a book you don't own the rights anymore.

SB: It was their property?

RMB: But to give you an indication of the kind of people they are: they wouldn't do anything unless I agreed to it and we all talked it out.



SB: Now how much of a hand are you going to have in the actual making of the film?

RMB: As much as I want. I helped choose the director. I adore her, and feel strongly about her as a person. I'll probably be on the set as much as I want to be. If I'm working on another book I won't be down there a lot. If not, I'll probably be there for the whole thing.

SB: Are you working on another book besides the new screen play?

RMB: Yeah, I finished a third novel this summer. It's about my mother and sister. You're gonna love it.

SB: That's what I loved about *Rubyfruit Jungle*: her mother. What are you reading now?

RMB: *The New Yorker*. I always read that. London's *Manchester Guardian*. And as a book, next to my bed is Aeschylus' *Orestia*. That's what I'm reading.

SB: *Orestia*?

RMB: You know, Agammenon, the libation bit . . .

SB: Must fit right in with the publicity tour. I can't think of anything else. Can you think of anything you'd ask yourself?

RMB: Uh, are you happy?

SB: Are you happy?

RMB: Yes!

SB: Yeah?

RMB: Are you?

SB: Yeah, I'm very happy, but for other reasons. Do you feel cut off from people?

RMB: No, if anything there's more and more people coming into my life than before. But writers are loners by tradition.

SB: Where are you going to settle? Cazenovia?

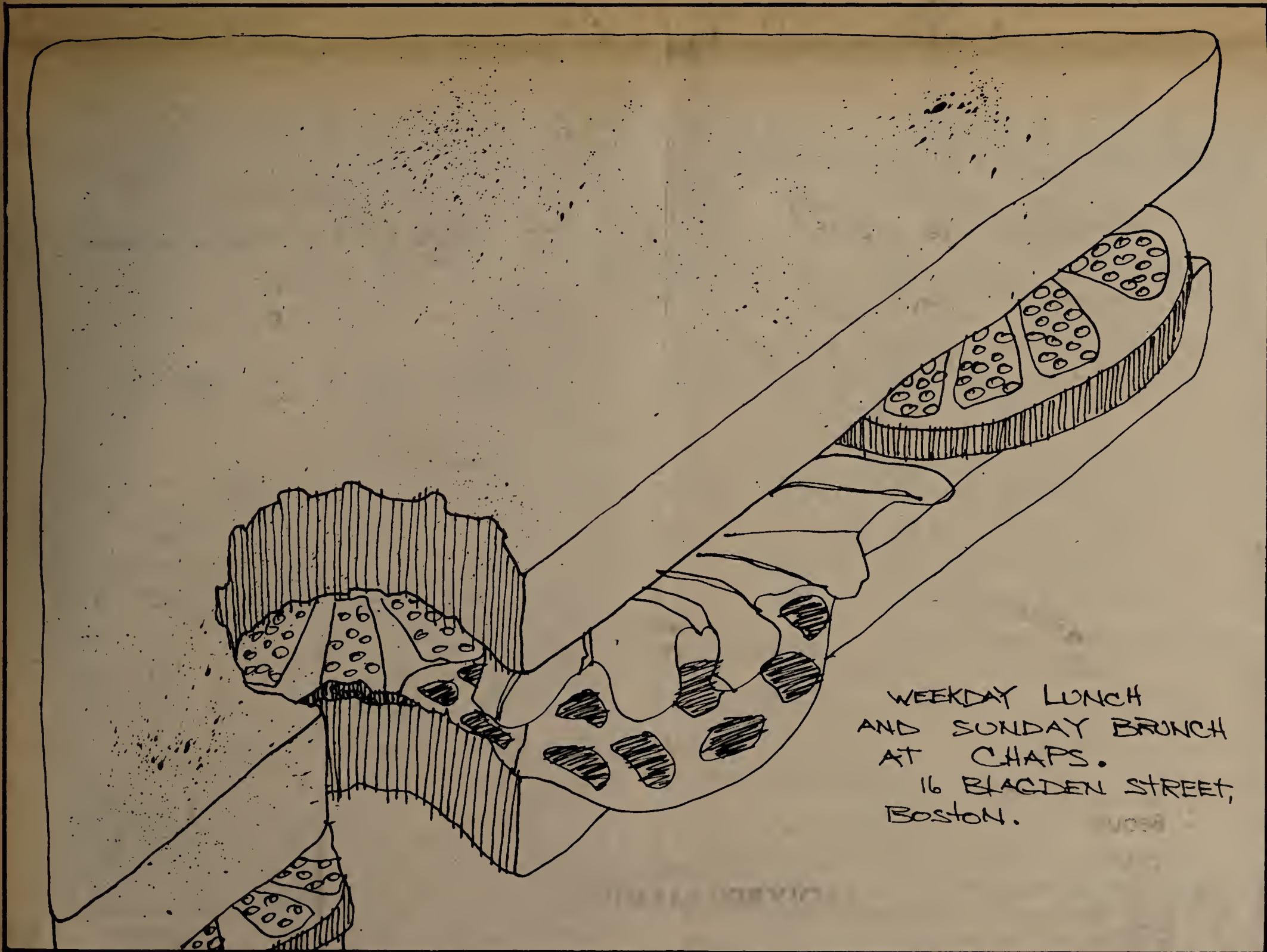
RMB: No, I'm going to go there to finish my teaching schedule and then I'm gonna move down to Virginia and rent a little place until I see if I do make money. Then see if I have enough money to buy one . . .

SB: In Virginia?

RMB: I would like to do that a lot, Steve.

SB: Elizabeth Taylor may become governor down there if she keeps it up. (Laughter) Really I saw her and her husband on TV. He cut her off: she's so pro women's lib it's amazing.

RMB: Really? Fantastic! Maybe I'll just look her up.



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# An Indian's Eerie Encounter with the Bronx

**The Indian Wants The Bronx.** Written by Israel Horowitz. Directed by Anthony Alicata. Starring Gary Blumsack, Robert Desiderio and Joel Rooks. At The Charles Playhouse, Stage III, 76 Warrenton St., Boston, through October.

By Nancy Walker

*The Indian Wants The Bronx* is an unprepossessing title for a startling, breath-stopping drama in which two young, aimless hoods find an elderly East Indian man waiting at a bus stop in New York City and proceed to torment him physically and emotionally until, at the end, he is mad with rage and fright. The show is utterly horrifying because it takes us into the world of pain, mental distortion, alienation and complete lack of communication between people in some of our large, dehumanized cities.

The young men, one Irish, Murph (Robert Desiderio), and one Jewish, Joey (Gary Blumsack), start off with

harmless teasing, progress to more seriously unkind game playing and end up with unbearably vicious sadistic cruelty. Totally gratuitous, this Kafka-like nightmare is even more gripping and disturbing than Kafka because it is more naturalistic and therefore harder to escape than the semi-surreal concoctions of Kafka's imagination.

The Indian is old and lost, looking for his son whose picture he is carrying with him. The son lives in the Bronx, and that is where the old man is trying to go when Murph and Joey find him.

This is not just a drama of cruelty. It is a very sad commentary on the way in which people actually live in today's urban society. The young men are as much victims of their upbringing and circumstances as the Indian is the victim of their ugly, violent pranks.

The play lasts only about an hour and it is a good thing for all concerned that it doesn't go on any longer. The energy expended by all the actors is so extraordinary that I wondered how they could survive if the play runs a

long while. As a member of the audience I felt so strongly what the actors were doing that I was worn out and more emotionally drained than I have been in the theater since I saw *Compulsion* more than twenty years ago in New York.

The horror is so real that I had to shake myself out of the black mood the play had induced in me.

Women are spoken of in the most unflattering terms, but how could it be otherwise, given the wretched circumstances of the boys' lives? Homosexuality is mocked, and yet part of the boys' anger and frustration clearly comes from their inability to be warm and affectionate with each other and still maintain the idiotic and limiting macho code their world imposes on them.

Joe seems to have some warm, loving inclinations towards both Murph and the Indian, but he is unable to halt the forward motion of Murph's mad drive to destroy the poor old man. For Joe the game loses its pleasure

when it become apparent that harm is unavoidable, but Murph is unable to stop. He is so caught up in the toils of his scheme that he must see it through to its dreadful conclusion.

When I entered the theater, I had no idea what was coming. I expected some sort of funny take-off on the old story about Peter Minuet's buying Manhattan Island from the Indians for sixteen dollars worth of trinkets. Well, there were some genuinely "funny" moments, but the humor was all of the gallows variety.

Everyone involved in the production deserves the highest praise for a job incredibly well done. The acting is in a category beyond my ability to describe. Joey and Murph were so totally convincing that I found myself hoping that they were indeed only acting. The play is not gory but it is fiendishly inhumane in its emotional cannibalism. If you have a strong constitution and you want your heart to skip a beat or two in pain and fascination, go see *The Indian Wants The Bronx*.

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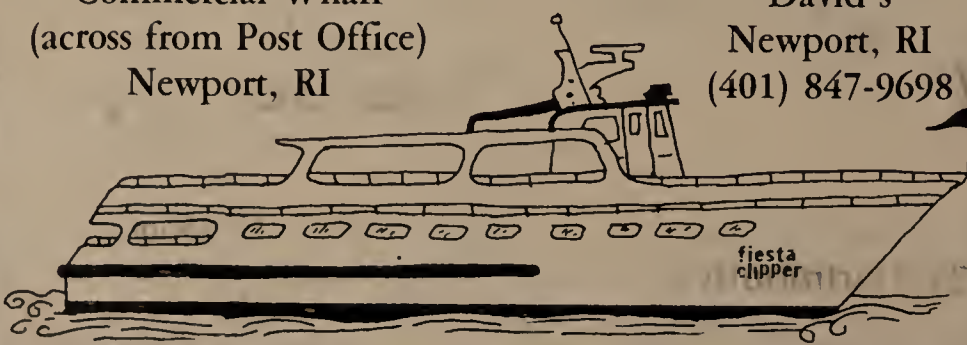
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# people, places and flings

By Francis Toohey

Allow me to add insult to the injury attempted on **David Holland** in the latest *Esplanade*: Dear Joe Leo: Following David is not following the dog act, as your current issue suggests. That description is true of my coming to *GCN* from your ad-rag. David's column was always gracious, in a way — a quality you may yet come to understand as being different from your bar-none brown-nosing that masquerades as tidbits and news. As the only original "staffer" with this opportunity available, I'm saying that your account of the past year's events in your anniversary issue is false and self-serving. Anyone involved with you knows that the "bitchiness which has characterized every gay operation . . ." really boiled down to a lot of infantile antics on your part and in no way reflects upon others or on every gay endeavor. The subsequent revolving-door editorship of your paper is a testament to the impossibility of working with you, not, as you say, to the "inability to find a competent, hard-working editor." A handful of competent hard-workers sweated and suffered to hand you your first issue — which you promptly squatted on. Gone are the days when to write for *Esplanade*, one needed more credentials than owning a Polaroid . . . Now, on to other things . . . Behind-the-scenes at *Together*, there's bad blood between **Sylvia Sydney** and **Marsha Daniels**. The facts are too tired to print, but it seems someone involved could use a dose of Geritol. Marsha's not worried that he's been fired from Monday nights — he still has the Thursday *Gong Show* . . . Whoever



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY, SKIP:** Skip Rosenthal (right) and singer Anne Loring (left) at the opening of the new upstairs room at Boston's Community Club on Thursday, September 15. The new room opened appropriately on bar manager Skip's birthday. Singer Anne Loring plays at the Community Club on Friday and Saturday nights along with pianist Kurt Loring and also sings at the 1270 on Sundays.

Photo by Angela Russo

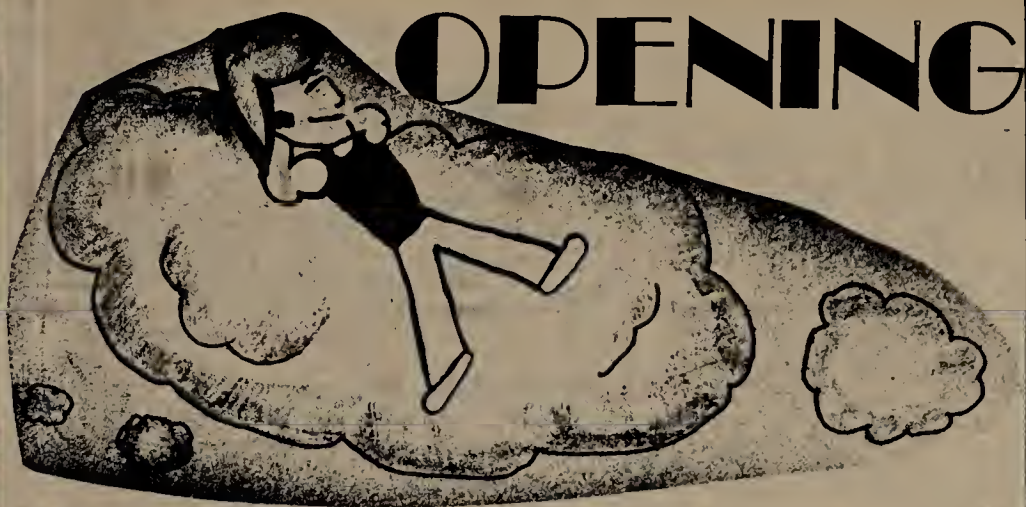
sent the beer-and-piss boilermaker to Sylvia courtesy of Marsha is a sad character . . . Disco-princess **Gloria Gaynor** will be returning to the above club Oct. 4, 5 and 6 . . . Word's leaked out that **Styx** may be in the pink soon . . . How Rude of Us Not to Notice Dept. — It looks like **Lance Loud**, the mouth of gay life, whisked in and out of town recently when his punk-rock band played *The Rat*. Lance didn't even get his name above the title in the posters I saw peeling off a wall on Charles Street during the fair last Sun-

day . . . **Tab Hunter**'s getting some over-due exposure this season when he joins the cast of *Fernwood Forever* . . . while one over-exposed **Andy Warhol** proves once again that he's really a "sphinx without a secret" as **Truman Capote** has remarked. If you want to see for yourself, check out the interview with the zero-gravity celebrity in this month's *Christopher Street* . . . *Mandate's* current interview with **Holly Woodlawn** is better. I've admired Holly ever since I saw her turn the tables on leering liberal **Geraldo**

**Rivera's** homosexuality special earlier this year . . . The first coffee-table book of cosmetics, *Looking Good: A Guide For Men* actually makes for some viewing. The tips on grooming and hygiene are helpful, but at \$14.95 a shot, my altruism fails me when I think of sending a collective copy to Fort Hill . . . One of the warmest spots on any map of the South End has to be the **Cafe Gallery** at 72 Dartmouth Street. They'll be hosting an open gay poetry reading on Sept. 30 at 8 p.m. The gay events there have been some of the best attended, the Cafe's pleased to report . . . That intriguing **Aubrey Beardsley** watercolor exhibit that *Boston Magazine* touted in its gallery guide this issue doesn't exist at the *English Gallery*, 212 Newbury Street. In fact, the place isn't even open as far as I can see . . . You'll have better luck viewing the popular **Maxfield Parrish's** work at *Vose Gallery*, 238 Newbury through the end of the month . . . I hope everyone can see the *Boston Shakespeare Company's* production of "**Twelfth Night**" — it really is surprise done up in Victorian drag. Some of the most imaginative and energetic theatre in this city happens right there on the corner of Berkeley and Marlborough (no, I'm not talking about the Block). At any rate, *Twelfth Night* is running in repertory with *Taming of the Shrew* all month (267-5600) . . . If your idea of pleasure's a little more visceral, look up a place called **J.T.'s** in Sudbury where they feature all the lobster you can eat for \$9.95 . . . A well known Charles Street antique dealer and part-time performer has been seen there trading in his Wellfleet clams for the steamy red variety . . . Tell me if this is true — does **Rex Reed** really own a chunk of the fence-sitting **Fan Club**? If so, then that's pretty true to form, isn't it? Well, till Rex and I meet again — watch out for me, Boston.



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**COMING TO S.F. BAY AREA?**  
Stanford Gay People's Union welcomes  
you. Social hours, rap group, peer coun-  
selling, programs, parties. Phone (415)  
497-1488; mail to Box 8265, Stanford, CA  
94305.

**CONSCIOUSNESS RAISING**  
Men, 40 and older, have problems differ-  
ent from young Gay Activists. Small dis-  
cussion group forming NYC. Call (212)  
242-8112 or write Burdick, Apt. 1C, 270 W.  
25th St., NYC, NY 10001.

In New Jersey, the Gay Activist Alliance/  
Morris County meets every Monday at  
8:30 p.m. using facilities of Unitarian Fel-  
lowship, Normandy Heights Rd., Morris-  
town, NJ. Info: (201) 884-0653; 347-6234.

**JOIN DIGNITY**  
Gay and Catholic? Find out more from  
Dignity, a national organization of gay  
and concerned Catholics. Write Dignity,  
755 Boylston St., Rm. 413, Boston, MA  
02116.

**METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
OF WORCESTER, church service at 6 in-  
stitute Road, 2 p.m. Sundays. Rev. Jos. H.  
Gilbert, pastor. 756-0730. The 3rd year  
begins.

Metropolitan Community Church of Bos-  
ton, services each Sunday at 7:00 p.m.  
(hymn sing 6:45), 131 Cambridge St., Bos-  
ton (Old West Church). Edward T.  
Hougen, pastor. Office 523-7664. All per-  
sons are welcome.

**SUPPORT LESBIAN MOTHERS**  
Lesbian Mothers National Defense Fund,  
2446 Lorentz Place, W. Seattle, WA 98109.  
(206) 282-5798. Membership \$5.00.

**BOSTON GAY CATHOLICS**  
Dignity Boston sponsors EXODUS MASS,  
a liturgy for gay and concerned Catholics  
every Sunday at Arlington Street Church  
(Boston), Boylston St. entrance, at 5:30  
p.m. For info contact Dignity/Boston, 102  
Charles St., Box 172, Boston, MA 02114 or  
call 739-1091. (5/35)

**NGTF NEEDS YOU**  
Join with the largest, fastest growing gay  
civil rights group in the country! The  
National Gay Task Force works with a  
professional staff on media representa-  
tion, national legislation, information  
clearinghouse, religious reforms, cor-  
porate non-discrimination statements,  
more! Help support our work — join now.  
\$15 membership (\$5 limited income) in-  
cludes Newsletter. NGTF, 80 Fifth Ave.,  
Rm. 506, New York, NY 10011.

## publications

**GAY SCENE** — The monthly picture  
entertainment newspaper. Features Gay  
Movement news, Articles, Reviews, Per-  
sonals, Nude Centerfold, plus more inter-  
esting features. \$8 for 12 issues. Send \$1  
for sample copy. Mailed in plain brown  
envelope. REGIMENT, C/O GALLERY  
THREE ENT., BOX 247, GRAND CENTRAL  
STA., NYC, NY 10017.

**FOCUS**  
A monthly journal of fiction, articles,  
poetry, book reviews, etc. by, for and  
about gay women. 1 year subscription (12  
issues) \$6. Sample copy 60c. Always sent  
in plain envelope. Focus, Box GCN, 1151  
Mass. Ave., Cambridge, MA 02138. (c)

**"FASCINATING."**  
says William S. Burroughs. "Enormously  
useful" — Gore Vidal. Send \$1 for sample  
of "S.T.H., the Manhattan Review of Un-  
natural Acts." Nationwide homosexual  
experiences and opinions. Write Box 982,  
NYC 10019. (16)

**WHAT'S NEW IN SAN FRANCISCO?**  
Read the SENTINEL and find out. News,  
features, opinion columns. Politics, the  
arts, entertainment, sports, contests,  
classifieds. San Francisco's NEWSpaper.  
Biweekly. \$15/year. SENTINEL, 12 Sharon  
St., S.F., CA 94114. (c)

**OHIO GAY JOURNAL**  
Subscribe to High Gear, Cleveland based,  
non-sexist monthly journal for gay  
women and men. Features Ohio news,  
historical-cultural features, politics, run-  
ning satire, music, et al. Send \$5 for 1 yr.  
sub. or 50c for sample copy to High Gear,  
P.O. Box 6177, Cleveland, Ohio 44101.

**THEY WILL KNOW ME BY MY TEETH**  
Magaera Press proudly announces pub-  
lication of stories & poems of Lesbian  
struggle, survival, and celebration by  
Elana Dykewoman (author of "Riverfinger  
Woman"). For Women Only from Old  
Lady Blue Jeans, P.O. Box 515, North-  
ampton, MA 01060. \$3.50 plus postage  
(25c).

**KEEP UP WITH THE SOUTH**  
Subscribe to the *Free Press*, a Southern  
news/magazine published every two  
weeks in Charlotte, NC, comprised of  
news, features and regular columns of  
interest to everyone. Two year subscrip-  
tion (52 issues) \$10.00; one year sub-  
scription (26 issues) \$6.00; sample copy  
25c. Please respond to *Free Press*, Box  
2550, Charlotte, NC 28234. Thank yawl.

**LAVENDER SOUTH**  
Discover the realities of the Southern gay  
experience. Read *The Barb*, The News  
Monthly for Southern Gays. Regional and  
National News: Lifestyle Commentary,  
Entertainment Columns. Subscriptions  
per year: \$5/3d class; \$8/1st class.  
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mous envelope.) Classifieds 10c/word.  
Master Charge, Euro Card and Access ac-  
cepted. The South's largest gay publica-  
tion: *The Barb*, Box 7922-B, Atlanta, GA  
30309.

**CALIFORNIA SCENE** 7th year. Sample  
copy \$1.25, ten copies \$10. Articles of  
general interest and news of all California  
plus photos, theatre, movie reviews and  
book reviews. Box 26032, Los Angeles,  
CA 90026.

"The Wishing Well"; a national publica-  
tion with emphasis on helping gay/fem-  
inists reach others with similar life  
styles. Code no's used to insure confi-  
dentiality. P.O. Box 1711, Santa Rosa, CA  
95403.

## BOSTON BAR GUIDE

**BAMBOO LOUNGE**  
30 Avery St.  
Food, Mixed.

**BOSTON EAGLE**  
88 Queensbury St. 247-9586  
Leather, Men, Thurs. Club Nite, Sunday  
Brunch 3PM, Movies Mon. & Tues. 8PM.  
**CARNIVAL LOUNGE**  
39 Boylston St. 338-7159  
Dancing, Mixed.

**CHAPS**  
27 Huntington Ave. 266-7778  
Food, Men.

**CITADEL**  
22 Avery St. 482-9040  
Dancing, Men.

**CLUB 76**  
76 Battery March St. 542-3377  
Food, Mixed (Mostly Men).

**COMMUNITY CLUB**  
252 Boylston St. 247-9308  
Noon to 2AM, 7 days a week.  
Dancing, Games, Food.

**DELIVERY ENTRANCE**  
At The House Restaurant  
12 Wilton St., Allston 783-5701  
Men & Women, "It's Different."

**HARRY'S PLACE**  
45 Essex St.  
Dancing, Men.

**HERBIE'S RAMROD ROOM**  
12 Carver St. 338-8577  
Leather, Men, Sunday Brunch 7PM, Thurs.  
Viking Club Nite.

**NAPOLEON CLUB**  
52 Piedmont St. 338-7547  
Dancing Fri., Sat., Sun., Men.

**PLAYLAND**  
21 Essex St.  
Men (Some Women).

**119 MERRIMAC**  
119 Merrimac St. 523-8960  
Dancing, Men, Tues.-Thurs. Buffet 9-11PM

**RAINBOW ROOM**  
15 Lansdowne St.  
Disco Dancing, Men.

**SAINTS**  
(Call 354-8807) Women.

**SOMEWHERE**  
295 Franklin St. 423-7730  
Disco Dancing, Mixed, Sunday Brunch 12-  
2PM

**SPORTER'S CAFE**  
228 Cambridge St.  
Food, Men, Saturday Brunch 5PM, Movies  
Mon. 3PM, Sunday Brunch 3PM.

**STYX**  
20 Blagden St. 247-3910  
Disco Dancing, Men.

**THE SHED**  
272 Huntington Ave.  
Leather, Men, Sunday Brunch 4PM.

**TOGETHER**  
110 Boylston St.  
Disco Dancing, Mixed

**1270**  
1270 Boylston St. 261-1257  
Disco Dancing, Mixed (Mostly Men).

**TWELVE CARVER**  
12 Carver St.  
Men.

# everyweek

### MONDAYS

12 noon — Northeastern U. GSO meeting, Ell  
Center, rm. 349, 360 Huntington Ave., Boston.  
Everyone welcome.  
5:30 pm — Women's Community Health Center  
open house, 137 Hampshire St., Cambridge.  
6-10 pm — NH Lambda for lesbians, phone (603)  
228-8542.  
6:30-8pm — Alcoholism discussion/education  
group for lesbians, Old Cambridge Baptist  
Church, 1145 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, MA,  
661-1316  
6:30-8:30 pm — Gay Health Services by appoint-  
ment, Fenway Community Health Center, 16  
Haviland St., Boston, 267-7573.  
7pm — Gay alcoholics group, 10 Walnut St., Wor-  
cester, MA  
7-9 pm — U. of Vermont Gay Switchboard,  
656-4173.  
7-10 pm — UMass Gay Women's Caucus Hotline,  
545-3438.  
7-9 pm — Yggdrasil Gay Gathering at Yggdrasil,  
15 Gilbert Rd., Storrs, CT, (203) 486-4737.  
7:30 pm — UMass Amherst, Bisexual Women's  
Rap Group, Campus Center.  
8 pm — Lesbian Rap and Action Group, Cam-  
bridge Women's Center basement, (617) 354-8807.  
8 pm — Lesbian Rap at Women's Center, 215 Park  
St., NH.  
8 pm — GPC business meeting, Columbe U.,  
Furnald Basement, Broadway at 115th St.  
8-9 pm — "None of the Above," WUUH-FM (91.3),  
West Hartford, CT, (203) 521-4553.  
8 pm — Lesbian Rap at Women's Center, 148  
Orange St., New Haven, CT.  
8:30 pm — Hartford Gay Alcoholics Group,  
(203) 522-2646.  
8:30 pm — Gay Alliance at Yale, open meeting,  
basement Hendrie Hall, 165 Elm St., New Haven,  
436-8945; public welcome.  
9 pm — Gay discussion group, Columbia U.,  
Furnald basement, Broadway at 115th St.

### TUESDAYS

9 am-2:30 pm — Brown U. Gay Lib, 305 Faunce  
House, Providence, RI, 863-3062.  
1 pm — MCC Campus Ministry, RIC Student U.,  
rm 312, Providence, RI.  
4:30-9:30 — MCC open hours with M. Hougen,  
drop-in center, 2 Wellington St., Worcester, MA  
6:30-8 pm — Women's Gay Collective, Women's  
Center, UConn, CT, (203) 486-4738  
7 pm — Pot Luck Supper, 228 1/2 Atwells Ave., Prov-  
idence, RI.

8 pm — DOB women's rap, 1151 Mass. Ave., Cam-  
bridge, MA, 661-3633.  
8 pm — Springfield Gay Alliance, First Unitarian  
Church, 245 Porter Lake Dr., Springfield.  
8 pm — Martha's Vineyard gay women and men  
rap group, info call 627-5370.  
8:30 pm — Providence Gay Group of AA, Assump-  
tion Parish Hall, 791 Potters Ave., Providence,  
RI, 231-5853.

### WEDNESDAYS

9 am — "Gay News" radio on WHUS-FM, (91.7),  
Storrs, CT.  
11 am — Gay discussion group of Drop-In Center  
of Northern Essex Community College, Haver-  
hill, MA; open to everyone.  
6-10 pm — NH Lambda for lesbians, phone (603)  
228-8542.  
6:30-8:30 pm — Gay Health Services, Fenway  
Community Health Center, 16 Haviland St., Bos-  
ton, 267-7573.  
7 pm — Lesbian Support Group, UNH Women's  
Center, Durham, NH.  
7 pm — Liberation Rap Group, (617) 756-0730.  
7 pm — Framingham Unicorn Society meets 2nd  
and 4th Wednesday; Box 163, Framingham, MA  
01701.  
7-9 pm — GRAC Volleyball on Fenway (b'tween  
rose garden and baseball diamond), Boston.  
7-10 pm — Gay Women's Collective, UConn Wo-  
men's Center, (203) 486-4738.  
7-9 pm — University of Vermont Gay Switchboard,  
(802) 656-4173.  
8 pm — Nashua, NH Area Gays rap session,  
call Ken (603) 673-5315 or Douo. 882-8732.  
8 pm — Discussion group for lesbians and gay  
men, Christ Church, 20 Carroll St., Pough-  
keepsle, NY.  
8 pm — HUM meets, Box 262, Fitchburg, MA  
01420.  
8 pm — Yalesblans meeting, rm. B-8, Hendrie  
Hall, 165 Elm St., New Haven, CT, 436-8945.  
8-9 pm — GRAC women's basketball, Lindemann  
Center, Hurley Bldg., Staniford St., Boston.  
8:30 pm — Gay-straight Rap, UConn, Mental  
Health Clinic, (203) 486-4705.  
9-12 pm — Gay Social, Columbia U., Furnald  
Basement, Broadway at 115th St.  
10:15 pm — "Gaybreak Radio" on WMUA-FM (91.1)  
(1st and 3rd Wednesdays).  
10:15 pm — "Gay News" radio on WHUS-FM, (91.7),  
Storrs, CT.

### THURSDAYS

9 am-2:30 pm — Brown U. Gay Lib, 305 Faunce  
House, Providence, RI, 863-3062.  
3:30 pm — UMass/Amherst, Gay Male Rap Group,  
Cottage B, near Worcester Dining Common.  
5 pm — Brandeis Gay Alliance, Usdan Student  
Ctr., Conf. Rm. C, Brandeis U., Waltham, MA.  
7 pm — Gay Alcoholics, St. Vincents Hospital,  
Worcester, MA.  
7 pm — Game Night, 5 Junction St., Providence,  
RI, alternate weeks.  
7-9 pm — GRAC swimming at Lindemann Center,  
Staniford St., Boston; instruction from 8-9.  
7-10 pm — UMass Gay Women's Caucus Hotline,  
545-3438.  
7:30 pm — Peoples Gay Alliance, UMass/Amherst,  
8th floor of Campus Center.  
8 pm — Capital Dist. Gay Comm. Council, 332  
Hudson Ave., Albany, NY 12210.  
8 pm — Dykes & Tykes, Women's Center, 46  
Pleasant St., Cambridge, MA, third floor, care for  
young people, 354-8807.  
8 pm — KALOS, Hartford, CT, 568-2656.  
8-9:30 pm — Gay Alliance at UConn in Commons,  
rm 312.  
8-9 pm — Lesbian Mother rap group, 21 Bay St.,  
Cambridge, MA, 661-2537.  
8:15 pm — Drinking problems rap group, HCHS,  
80 Boylston St., rm. 855, Boston.  
8:30 pm — Gay Women's Caucus, UMass/Am-  
herst, 8th floor of Campus Center.  
8:30 pm — Gay Alliance at Yale, Hendrie Hall  
basement, 436-8945, New Haven, CT.  
9 pm — Emerson Homophile Society, rm. 24, 96  
Beacon St., Boston.

### FRIDAYS

7-9 pm — GRAC men's basketball, Lindemann  
Center, Hurley Bldg., Staniford St., Boston.  
7:30pm — Am Tikva service, social at Frost  
Lounge, Ell Center, Northeastern Univ., 360  
Huntington Ave., Boston  
7:30 pm — Rap group for men and women, MGTF,  
193 Middle St., Portland, ME.  
7:30 pm — Lesbian Feminist Workshop, 21 Bay  
St., Cambridge, MA, info call 783-9415.  
7:30 pm — Gay get-together, downstairs round-  
room, Billings Center, U of VT, Burlington.  
8-11 pm — Berkshire Community Gay Coalition,  
Unitarian Church, Wendell Ave., Pittsfield, MA,  
(413) 442-7033.  
8 pm-12 — Brown U. Gay Lib, 305 Faunce House,  
Providence, RI, 863-3062.  
8 pm — East Conn. Gay Alliance, 889-7530.  
8 pm — "Somewhere Coffeehouse," MCC/Hart-  
ford, 11 Amity St., Hartford.

8:30 pm — Alcoholics Together, Our Lady of Vic-  
tory Church, Isabella St., Boston.  
9-12 pm — GAY coffeehouse, Hendrie Hall base-  
ment, 165 Elm St., New Haven, CT.

### SATURDAYS

2 pm — Project Lambda Rap session for gay teen-  
agers, 70 Charles St., Boston.  
8 pm-12 — Brown U. Gay Lib, 305 Faunce House,  
Providence, RI, 863-3062.  
10 pm-3 am — Worcester Hotline, 791-6562.

### SUNDAYS

10:30 am — "Closet Space," WCAS-AM (740).  
11 am — Church of the Beloved Disciple, 348  
West 14th St., NYC.  
2 pm — Church of the Beloved Disciple, 348  
West 14th St., NYC.  
2 pm — MCC/Worcester service, Central Cong.  
Church, 6 Institute Rd., Worcester.  
2-4 pm — GRAC swimming at Lindemann Center,  
Staniford St., Boston.  
2:30 pm — "Gay A's" Alcoholics Rap, Old West  
Church, 131 Cambridge St., Boston.  
2:30 pm — Gay AA, 11 Amity St., Hartford, CT.  
4-6 pm — Gay Women's Group of Providence rap,  
(401) 831-5184.  
5 pm — Dignity/Integrity Mass, St. Luke's Church,  
17 S. Fitzhugh St., Rochester, NY.  
5 pm — MCC/Boston Bible study group, 131 Cam-  
bridge St., 523-7864.  
5:30 pm — Exodus Mass, St. Clement's Church,  
1105 Boylston St., Boston.  
5:30pm — Dignity service, Arlington St. Church,  
Boylston St. entrance, Boston  
6:30 pm — Gay Church Services, 23 Franklin St.,  
Bangor, ME.  
7 pm — Church of the Beloved Disciple, 348  
West 14th St., NYC.  
7 pm — MCC services, South Church, 292 State  
St., Portsmouth, NH (first Sunday of month).  
7 pm — MCC/Albany, NY, 332 Hudson Ave. (except  
first Sunday of month at 6 pm).  
7 pm — MCC/NY worship, 201 W. 13th St. (corner  
of 7th Ave.).  
7 pm — MCC/Boston, worship and fellowship, Old  
West Church, 131 Cambridge St., Boston.  
7 pm — Church of the Eternal Flame Universal,  
320 Farmington Ave., Apt. A-6, Hartford, CT.  
7:30 pm — MCC/Hartford, 11 Amity St., Hartford,  
CT.  
7:30 pm — "Come Out Tonight," radio WYBC-FM  
(94.3), New Haven, CT.  
8 pm-12 — Brown U. Gay Lib, 305 Faunce House,  
Providence, RI, 863-3062.  
8-12pm — NH Lambda for lesbians, phone (603)  
332-4440

# calendar

WHAT ARE YOU DOING? DOES YOUR GROUP HAVE SCHEDULED EVENTS? BE INCLUDED IN THE GCN CALENDAR, SEND LISTINGS TO: CALENDAR PAGE, GCN, 22 BROMFIELD ST., BOSTON, MA 02108.

## 26 mon

Cambridge, MA — Gay Youth Program social get-together for teenagers meets at MIT, Walker Memorial, 142 Memorial Drive, Rm. 306, 6:30-9 p.m.

## 27 tue

Providence, RI — Gay Political Caucus organizational meeting, anyone interested should attend, 55 Eddy St., 7:30pm.

NYC — Integrity, the Episcopal Gay Society, meeting at Church of St. Luke, Hudson and Grove Sts., 7:30pm.

## 28 wed

Poughkeepsie, NY — Stonewall Society presents a public forum on "Clergy and Homosexuality" at Mental Health Center Hall, Washington St., 7:30pm.

Boston — BU gays meeting at 7:30pm in rm 320-321 of George Sherman Union Bldg., 771 Comm. Ave., everyone welcome.

## 29 thur

Cambridge, MA — DOB Women's rap at Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave., 7:30pm.

## 30 fri

Boston — GCN folds this and every Friday, volunteers are needed to help, join us from 6-9 p.m., 22 Bromfield St.

Boston — Celebration of Autumn poetry reading at Cafe Gallery, Dartmouth and Appleton Sts., South End, 8pm, come to read or listen.

Cambridge, MA — Michael Weinstein speaks on "From the Gay Left to Trotskyism — Spartacist League/Red Flag Union Forum," Harvard U., Emerson Hall, rm 101, 7:30pm.

Boston — Dignity sponsors lecture on "History of the New Rite of Reconciliation" by Fr. Peter Fink at Paulist Center library room, 5 Park St., 8pm.

Cambridge, MA — "Lesbians in Law" meets for dinner at Bread & Roses, 134 Hampshire St., 7:30pm, all legal workers, law students and lawyers are invited, for info call 522-2961.

## october

## 1 sat

Boston — Meditation course for beginners introductory meeting at 355 Boylston St., 9:30am, for info call 277-2484.

Boston — A demonstration to oppose the Ward for "Violent" Women at Worcester State Hospital will be held on the Boston Common at 12 noon.

Storrs, CT — UConn Gay Alliance hosts Jade & Sarsaparilla in concert, Student Union Ballroom, 9pm, \$3 donation, you can BYOB.

Cambridge, MA — DOB Crafts Fair and Flea Market at Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave., 10am-5pm.

## 2 sun

Portsmouth, NH — MCC-Extension meeting, 292 State St., 7pm, info call (603) 382-4678.

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